

## HIERARCHICAL INTERFACE TO ATTRIBUTE BASED DATABASE

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### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           The present invention provides a hierarchical interface to an attribute based  
 database. The method includes organizing a number of classifiers of data into a  
 hierarchical structure and organizing the data into the hierarchical data structure  
 according to the classifiers to which the data is linked. The hierarchical data structure  
 can be a file system directory tree structure. The files system directory tree structure  
 can be according to the NFS protocol. A request is received from a client, the request  
 10   formatted according to the NFS protocol. The request is translated into a database  
 query. A result is produced which is formatted according to the NFS protocol and the  
 result is sent to the client. The present invention allows data to be presented in  
 rearrange-able order based on a client view and classifiers, bound and unbound. The  
 present invention also restricts access to files in a flexible manner.

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